

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045773
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-06 VOE-00 CA-01 SOE-02
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08
DOE-11 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00
ACDA-12 NEA-10 /146 R

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EUR/WE:JDOBBSINS (SUBS)
EUR/RPM:BCLARK (SUBS)
OES/APT/SA:RBEDDINGTON

-----121015 231014Z /16

R 222047Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 045773

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XT, TECH, OVIP

SUBJECT: WEU COMMITTEE VISIT TO US

REF: STATE CABLE NO. 045772

1. TEXT OF DRAFT BACKGROUND INFO ON GROUP WHICH WILL BE
DISTRIBUTED TO BRIEFERS AND HOSTS FOLLOWS. PLEASE
CABLE COMMENT, IF ANY.

2. QUOTE: THE WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION WAS ESTABLISHED IN
1948 AND WAS THE PRECURSOR OF NATO, CREATED IN 1949.
THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES ARE CURRENTLY MEMBERS OF THE
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WEU: BELGIUM, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE,
ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLANDS AND THE UNITED KING-
DOM. THE US IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE WEU. THE INTERESTS
OF THE WEU LIE MAINLY IN THE MILITARY-SECURITY AREA.

3. QUOTE: THE WEU ASSEMBLY IS AN ORGANIZATION COMPRISED
OF PARLIAMENTARIANS, WHO ARE NAMED TO THE ASSEMBLY BY

THEIR NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS. THE ASSEMBLY HOLDS PERIODIC MEETINGS. IT IS ORGANIZED INTO COMMITTEES ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, POLITICAL-MILITARY QUESTIONS, SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY, ETC. THESE COMMITTEES PREPARE REPORTS AND TRAVEL TO WESTERN COUNTRIES FOR CONSULTATIONS.

3. QUOTE: A WEU ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE CUSTOMARILY REQUESTS A VISIT TO THE US EACH YEAR. TRANSPORTATION, LODGING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, SUCH AS INTERPRETERS, ARE BORNE BY THE WEU ASSEMBLY AND THE PARLIAMENTARIANS THEMSELVES. THE US WELCOMES THE WEU COMMITTEE VISITS; WE BELIEVE THEY ARE USEFUL TO THE US AND THE ASSEMBLY.

4. QUOTE: THIS YEAR THE ASSEMBLY'S COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND AEROSPACE WILL VISIT THE US FROM APRIL 10-APRIL 21. THE WASHINGTON PROGRAM FOR THE GROUP INCLUDES BRIEFINGS AT STATE, NASA, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY, AND A MEETING WITH THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SPACE. THE ASSEMBLY GROUP THEN FLIES TO THE WEST COAST ON APRIL 13 TO VISIT BOEING IN SEATTLE, THE SCRIPPS INSTITUTE AT LA JOLLA, AND TRW IN LOS ANGELES. A VISIT TO HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA TO WITNESS A TEST OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE ROCKET BOOSTER WILL CONCLUDE THE PROGRAM PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR EUROPE, APRIL 21.
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5. QUOTE: THE ASSEMBLY GROUP THIS YEAR INCLUDES COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARIANS. IN VIEW OF THE PARTICIPATION OF COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARIANS AND BECAUSE OF CERTAIN DEFENSE CONSIDERATIONS, ALL BRIEFINGS WILL REMAIN UNCLASSIFIED, AS THEY CUSTOMARILY ARE FOR WEU ASSEMBLY VISITS.

6. QUOTE: NO CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE US ATTITUDE TOWARD "EUROCOMMUNISM" SHOULD BE DRAWN FROM THE PARTICIPATION OF COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARIANS IN THE GROUP, WHO ARE SELECTED SOLELY BY THEIR OWN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS.
END QUOTE. VANCE

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